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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

27799 7590 09/23/2011

Cozen O'Connor
277 Park Avenue, 20th floor
NEW YORK, NY 10172

EXAMINER

KAMAL, SHAHID

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3718

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2011

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/593,140	09/27/2006	Anders Haseth	3067-29PUS	6493

TITLE OF INVENTION: MAT FOR SPORT AND GAMES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	12/23/2011

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

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B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

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B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

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III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

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27799 7590 09/23/2011

Cozen O'Connor
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NEW YORK, NY 10172

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(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/593,140	09/27/2006	Anders Haseth	3067-29PUS	6493

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nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	12/23/2011

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
KAMAL, SHAHID	3718	473-422000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).	2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.
<input type="checkbox"/> Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.	1 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev.03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.	2 _____
	3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

Issue Fee
 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
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4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

A check is enclosed.
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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27799	7590	09/23/2011	EXAMINER			
Cozen O'Connor 277 Park Avenue, 20th floor NEW YORK, NY 10172				KAMAL, SHAHID		
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3718						
DATE MAILED: 09/23/2011						

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 710 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 710 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/593,140	HASETH, ANDERS	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	SHAHID KAMAL	3718	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 05/31/2011.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-32.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

/PIERRE E. ELISCA/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3718

DETAILED ACTION

Acknowledgements

1. Applicant's amendment filed on May 31, 2011 is acknowledged. Accordingly, claims 1-32 remain pending and have been allowed.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions by unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. §1.312. To ensure consideration of such amendment, it must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

3. Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephonic communication with Lance Lieberman (Registration No. 28,437) on or about August 17, 2011.

4. The application has been amended as follows:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) Device [[for]] to use in sports and games for detecting the position of impact of a moveable object, comprising:
a sheet or mat with an outer layer and an inner layer, the sheet or mat forming a target surface; a plurality of electrically conductive elements embedded in the sheet or mat and forming pressure sensitive switches distributed over the target surface and communicating with electronic circuits for outputting, processing and displaying electrical signals from pressure sensitive switches when activated by said impact or pressure,
wherein the plurality of electrically conductive elements comprise
a first pattern of electrically conductive elements provided at an underneath side
of the outer layer of the sheet or mat at least at the positions of the pressure sensitive switches, and
a second pattern of electrically conductive elements provided at an upper side of
the inner layer of said sheet or mat at least at the positions of the pressure sensitive switches,
the first pattern of electrically conductive elements and the second pattern of electrically conductive elements being arranged so as to enable temporary contact to be established at the positions

of the pressure sensitive switches, and an insulation layer between said outer and inner layers is provided with cavities or holes at the positions of the pressure sensitive switches for establishing temporary contact therein, and from each cavity or hole at least one opening directed sideways for air movement during said impact or pressure activation, and wherein at least one of the first and second patterns of electrically conductive elements is subdivided into a number of individual zones, where each zone comprises a plurality of said pressure sensitive switches, and the electronic circuits have separate connections to each of said individual zones.

2. (previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein one of a character and a thickness of the insulation layer determines the detection sensitivity.
3. (previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the second pattern of electrically conductive elements is applied on an upward surface of an inner support layer joined with the inner layer.
4. (previously presented) The device according to claim 1, configured for use with a ball, having a given size, wherein said positions of the pressure sensitive switches are mutually spaced in such a way that the ball by impact or pressure will activate at least two pressure sensitive switches.
5. (previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said first pattern of electrically conductive elements and said second pattern of electrically conductive elements is formed by printed circuit elements.
6. (previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the outer layer of the sheet or mat is further provided with a hollow and flexible, dome-shaped protrusion at each position of the pressure sensitive switches, each zone comprising a number of protrusions.
7. (previously presented) The device according to claim 6, wherein said hollow and flexible protrusions provide a sufficient degree of elastic deformation when activated by said impact or pressure, which also affects the degree of detection accuracy.
8. (previously presented) The device according to claim 6, wherein said hollow and flexible protrusions are further provided with spring elements for obtaining a sufficient degree of elastic deformation when activated by said impact or pressure.
9. (previously presented) The device according to claim 6, wherein the shape of said protrusions is substantially circular as seen in plan view.
10. (previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the surface of the sheet or mat is provided with at least one line corresponding to a line that is to be found on a standard field or court for the sport or game concerned, where at least some of the zones border said at least one line.
11. (previously presented) The device according to claim 10, wherein said at least one line, located or provided on said surface, contains line zones having pressure sensitive switches, preferably with said line zones arranged in the longitudinal direction of said at least one line.
12. (previously presented) The device according to claim 2, wherein the second pattern of electrically conductive elements is applied on an upward surface of an inner support layer joined with the inner layer.
13. (previously presented) The device according to claim 2, configured for use with a ball, having a given size, wherein said positions of the pressure sensitive switches are mutually spaced in such a way

that the ball or the object by impact or pressure will activate at least two pressure sensitive switches.

14. (previously presented) The device according to claim 3, configured for use with a ball, having a given size, wherein said positions of the pressure sensitive switches are mutually spaced in such a way that the ball or the object by impact or pressure will activate at least two pressure sensitive switches.

15. (previously presented) The device according to claim 2, wherein at least one of said first pattern of electrically conductive elements and said second pattern of electrically conductive elements is formed by printed circuit elements.

16. (previously presented) The device according to claim 3, wherein at least one of said first and pattern of electrically conductive elements and said second pattern of electrically conductive elements is formed by printed circuit elements.

17. (previously presented) The device according to claim 4, wherein at least one of said first pattern of electrically conductive elements and said second pattern of electrically conductive elements is formed by printed circuit elements.

18. (previously presented) The device according to claim 2, wherein the outer layer of the sheet or mat is further provided with a hollow and flexible, dome-shaped protrusion at each position of the pressure sensitive switches, each zone comprising a number of protrusions.

19. (previously presented) The device according to claim 3, wherein the outer layer of the sheet or mat is further provided with a hollow and flexible, dome-shaped protrusion at each position of the pressure sensitive switches, each zone comprising a number of protrusions.

20. (previously presented) The device according to claim 4, wherein the outer layer of the sheet or mat is further provided with a hollow and flexible, dome-shaped protrusion at each position of the pressure sensitive switches, each zone comprising a number of protrusions.

21. (previously presented) The device according to claim 5, wherein the outer layer of the sheet or mat is further provided with a hollow and flexible, dome-shaped protrusion at each position of the pressure sensitive switches, each zone comprising a number of protrusions.

22. (previously presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein said hollow and flexible protrusions are further provided with spring elements for obtaining a sufficient degree of elastic deformation when activated by said impact or pressure.

23. (previously presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein the shape of said protrusions is substantially circular as seen in plan view.

24. (previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the shape of said protrusions is substantially circular as seen in plan view.

25. (previously presented) The device according to claim 2, wherein the surface of the sheet or mat is provided with at least one line corresponding to a line that is to be found on a standard field or court for the sport or game concerned, where at least some of the zones border said at least one line.

26. (previously presented) The device according to claim 3, wherein the surface of the sheet or mat is provided with at least one line corresponding to a line that is to be found on a standard field or court for the sport or game concerned, where at least some of the zones border said at least one line.

Art Unit: 3718

27. (previously presented) The device according to claim 4, wherein the surface of the sheet or mat is provided with at least one line corresponding to a line that is to be found on a standard field or court for the sport or game concerned, where at least some of the zones border said at least one line.

28. (previously presented) The device according to claim 5, wherein the surface of the sheet or mat is provided with at least one line corresponding to a line that is to be found on a standard field or court for the sport or game concerned, where at least some of the zones border said at least one line.

29. (previously presented) The device according to claim 6, wherein the surface of the sheet or mat is provided with at least one line corresponding to a line that is to be found on a standard field or court for the sport or game concerned, where at least some of the zones border said at least one line.

30. (previously presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein the surface of the sheet or mat is provided with at least one line corresponding to a line that is to be found on a standard field or court for the sport or game concerned, where at least some of the zones border said at least one line.

31. (currently amended) A device [[for]] to use in sports and games for detecting the position of impact of a moveable object, comprising:
a sheet or mat with an outer and an inner layer, the sheet or mat forming a target surface;
a plurality of electrically conductive elements embedded in the sheet or mat and forming pressure sensitive switches distributed over the target surface and communicating with electronic circuits for outputting, processing and displaying electrical signals from pressure sensitive switches when activated by said impact or pressure,
wherein the plurality of electrically conductive elements comprise a first pattern of electrically conductive elements provided at an underneath side of the outer layer of the sheet or mat at least at the positions of the pressure sensitive switches, and
a second pattern of electrically conductive elements provided at an upper side of the inner layer of said sheet or mat at least at the positions of the pressure sensitive switches, and
the first pattern of electrically conductive elements and the second pattern of electrically conductive elements being arranged so as to enable temporary contact to be established at the positions of the pressure sensitive switches; and
an insulation layer between said outer and inner layers is provided with cavities or holes at the positions of the pressure sensitive switches for establishing temporary contact therein, and from each cavity or hole at least one opening directed sideways for air movement during said impact or pressure activation,
wherein at least one of the first and second patterns of electrically conductive elements is subdivided into a number of individual zones, where each zone comprises a plurality of said pressure sensitive switches, and the electronic circuits have separate connections to each of said individual zones,
wherein the outer layer of the sheet or mat is further provided with a hollow and flexible, dome-shaped protrusion at each position of the pressure sensitive switches, each zone comprising a number of protrusions, said hollow and flexible protrusions further including spring elements for obtaining a sufficient degree of elastic deformation when activated by said impact or pressure, and
wherein the surface of the sheet or mat is provided with at least one line corresponding to a line that is to be found on a standard field or court for the sport or game concerned, where at least some of the zones border said at least one line.

32. (previously presented) The device according to claim 9, wherein the surface of the sheet or mat is provided with at least one line corresponding to a line that is to be found on a standard field or court for the sport or game concerned, where at least some of the zones border said at least one line.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
6. Regarding the claimed terms, the Examiner notes that a "general term must be understood in the context in which the inventor presents it." *In re Glaug* 283 F.3d 1335, 1340, 62 USPQ2d 1151, 1154 (Fed. Cir. 2002). Therefore the Examiner must interpret the claimed terms as found on pages 1-23 of the specification. Clearly almost all the general terms in the claims may have multiple meanings. So where a claim term "is susceptible to various meanings, . . . the inventor's lexicography must prevail . . ." *Id.* Using these definitions for the claims, the claimed invention was not reasonably found in the prior art.
7. This application is regarding mat for sport and games for detecting impact position of a movable object. The mat includes an outer layer and an inner layer, each with inlays of electrically conductive elements forming a pressure-sensitive switch distributed over the target area. The pressure sensitive switches communicate with electronic circuits for indicating, processing and presentation of electrical signals when the switches are activated by a ball impact.
8. The closest prior art is by Christopher (GB2323297). Christopher teaches that a sheet or mat with an outer and an inner layer, the sheet or mat forming a target surface; a plurality of electrically conductive elements embedded in the sheet or mat and forming pressure sensitive switches distributed over the target surface and communicating with electronic circuits for outputting, processing and displaying electrical signals from pressure sensitive switches when activated by said impact or pressure, wherein the plurality of electrically conductive elements

comprise a first pattern of electrically conductive elements provided at an underneath side of the outer layer of the sheet or mat at least at the positions of the pressure sensitive switches, and a second pattern of electrically conductive elements provided at an upper side of the inner layer of said sheet or mat at least at the positions of the pressure sensitive switches, and the first pattern of electrically conductive elements and the second pattern of electrically conductive elements being arranged so as to enable temporary contact to be established at the positions of the pressure sensitive switches; and an insulation layer between said outer and inner layers is provided with cavities or holes at the positions of the pressure sensitive switches for establishing temporary contact therein, and from each cavity or hole at least one opening directed sideways for air movement during said impact or pressure activation, wherein at least one of the first and second patterns of electrically conductive elements is subdivided into a number of individual zones, where each zone comprises a plurality of said pressure sensitive switches, and the electronic circuits have separate connections to each of said individual zones.

9. The second closest prior art is by Kustanovich (US Patent No.: 4,659,090). Kustanovich teaches that wherein the outer layer of the sheet or mat is further provided with a hollow and flexible, dome-shaped protrusion at each position of the pressure sensitive switches, each zone comprising a number of protrusions, said hollow and flexible protrusions further including spring elements for obtaining a sufficient degree of elastic deformation when activated by said impact or pressure.

10. However, the Christopher /Kustanovich combination fails to teach the aspect of “wherein the surface of the sheet or mat is provided with at least one line corresponding to a line that is to be found on a standard field or court for the sport or game concerned, where at least some of the zones border said at least one line”.

11. Yet even if the missing claimed elements were found in a reasonable number of references, a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would not have been motivated to include these missing elements in an embodiment in Haseth disclosure because: all of the above mention reference is directed toward for sports training or practice apparatus and a electrical device for indicating the force and/or location of target impacts or other forces.

12. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shahid Kamal whose telephone number is (571) 270-3272. The Examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thursday 8:30 AM- 7:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (571) 272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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/Shahid Kamal/
Examiner, Art Unit 3718

/PIERRE E. ELISCA/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3718